

**HANSON PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF
APRIL 19th, 2016 AT 7:00 PM
HANSON TOWN HALL, MEETING ROOM A**

A meeting of the Town of Hanson Planning Board was held on April 19, 2016 at the Hanson Town Hall, 542 Liberty Street, Hanson, MA. Members present were Chairman Donald Ellis, Joseph Weeks, Joseph Gamache, Stephen Regan and John Kemmett.

By motion made and seconded, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

James D. Fitzgerald, P.E., LEED AP, President Director of Transportation of Environmental Partners Group, LLC approached the Board to discuss the merits of the "Complete Streets Program" as it relations to infrastructure improvement projects.

Mr. Fitzgerald used a PowerPoint presentation to explain the Complete Streets Funding Program. The Complete Streets Funding Program, authorized by the 2014 Transportation Bond Bill, offers Massachusetts municipalities incentives to adopt policies and practices that provide safe and accessible options for all travel modes – walking, biking, transit and vehicles – for people of all ages and abilities. To be eligible for up to \$50,000 in technical assistance and up to \$400,000 in construction funding, a municipality must meet three primary requirements:

1. Attendance of a municipal employee at a Complete Streets training
2. Passage of a Complete Streets Policy that scores 80 or above out of a possible 100 points (Tier 1)
3. Development of a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan (Tier 2).

MassDOT offers technical assistance to conduct a needs assessment, network gap analysis, and/or safety audit to determine a targeted investment strategy for Complete Streets infrastructure. Upon completion of these requirements, a municipality is eligible for construction funds (Tier 3).

Complete Streets improvements may be large scale such as corridor wide improvements or focused on the needs of a single mode. There are three phases to this program. Tier 1 is the training and policy development phase. This is where the town would submit a proposed policy for scoring. Tier 2 is the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan development phase where the Town can submit the proposed prioritization plan template or request technical assistance funding of up to \$50,000 for the development of a Prioritization Plan. Tier 3 requires a brief application and a list of the projects (top several projects equaling a cost not to exceed \$400,000 for a given year. The program funding is available for two years, FY16 and FY17. This program is a reimbursement program which requires submission of proof of work completed prior to reimbursement. The Town can tailor the policy to fit the needs of the community and can focus on a small or large area of the town.

The Prioritization Plan is a list of the projects the town wants to complete that clearly identifies concerns and how they will be remedied. Complete Streets feature curb cuts, high visibility crosswalks, and other designs for travelers with disabilities.

Stephen Regan made a motion to request that the Town Planner draft a Complete Streets policy appropriate for review and adoption by the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. Joseph Weeks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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Joseph Weeks made a motion to close the meeting. Joseph Gamache seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Muncy
Town Planner/Conservation Agent